

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IT2004/000120

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G06F17/00 A61B5/021

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G06F A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, COMPENDEX, EMBASE, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|----------|---|-----------------------|
| X | US 2003/023173 A1 (FINKELSTEIN STANLEY M ET AL) 30 January 2003 (2003-01-30) paragraph '0044! - paragraph '0047! | 39, 40 |
| A | ----- US 2002/022785 A1 (ROMANO SALVATORE) 21 February 2002 (2002-02-21) paragraph '0047! - paragraph '0065! | 1-38, 41, 42 |
| X | ----- | 39, 40 |
| A | ----- | 1-38, 41, 42 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority, claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

9 July 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

19/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patenttaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Clevorn, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/IT2004/000120

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | | Publication date |
|--|------------------|-------------------------|--|------------------|
| US 2003023173 | A1 30-01-2003 | US 6394958 B1 | | 28-05-2002 |
| | | US 6017313 A | | 25-01-2000 |
| | | AT 232319 T | | 15-02-2003 |
| | | AU 3104099 A | | 11-10-1999 |
| | | AU 3104399 A | | 11-10-1999 |
| | | DE 69905240 D1 | | 13-03-2003 |
| | | DE 69905240 T2 | | 20-11-2003 |
| | | EP 1062596 A1 | | 27-12-2000 |
| | | EP 1063919 A1 | | 03-01-2001 |
| | | HK 1033377 A1 | | 06-06-2003 |
| | | WO 9948023 A1 | | 23-09-1999 |
| | | WO 9947044 A1 | | 23-09-1999 |
| US 2002022785 | A1 21-02-2002 | IT FI990098 A1 | | 27-10-2000 |
| | | AU 4751600 A | | 10-11-2000 |
| | | BR 0010081 A | | 05-02-2002 |
| | | CA 2368241 A1 | | 02-11-2000 |
| | | EP 1173093 A1 | | 23-01-2002 |
| | | JP 2002541961 T | | 10-12-2002 |
| | | CN 1348341 T | | 08-05-2002 |
| | | WO 0064339 A1 | | 02-11-2000 |
| | | ZA 200108982 A | | 12-06-2002 |